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<b>DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION</b>	<b>RELATED NCCHC/ACA STANDARDS:</b> P-A-06/4-4410, 4-4402, 4-9423 (ESSENTIAL)	
<b>CHAPTER: 11 HEALTH SERVICES</b>	<b>SUBJECT: STATEWIDE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM</b>	
<b>APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER:</b>		
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE: 11-19-07</b>		

**PURPOSE:**

To provide a statewide program designed to monitor, evaluate and improve the delivery of healthcare by identifying, analyzing and correcting problems that may potentially impede quality.

**POLICY:**

1. There will be a Statewide Quality Improvement (QI) Committee. The Statewide QI Committee is to review implementation, maintenance and monitoring of site QI programs.
2. The Committee will meet quarterly, review all minutes and quarterly reports submitted by the site QI committees and, make recommendations to the Commissioner of Correction as necessary.
3. The Committee will review and sign off on credentials of all healthcare personnel.
4. The Committee will review all aspects of corrective action identified by the site QI committees, with special emphasis on areas that appear to have a statewide impact, including any fiscal impact.
5. The Statewide Committee will be coordinated, and activities directed by the DOC Quality Assurance Administrator. Membership of the Committee will include: Director Office of Health Services who will be the Chair, Regional Medical Director, Regional Mental Health Director, Chief Psychiatrist, Statewide Director of Nurses, Regional Vice President, Chief Dentist, Commissioner of Correction or designee, and other members

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as may be necessary to review healthcare and identify improvements to the healthcare system.

6. An annual report will be generated to the Commissioner summarizing areas that have been improved in the past year and those which need improvement.
7. All aspects of this program, its committees, and other ad hoc groups operating as a result of this policy are created for the purpose of analyzing and reviewing the delivery of healthcare services. As such, the committee's function is the review of medical records, medical care, and physicians' work, with a view to the quality of care and utilization of hospital resources, office visits, and trained medical staff. All aspects of the function of any group or committee which operate pursuant to this policy are intended to be "peer review committees" as set forth at 24 *Del. C.* § 1768.

References:

National Commission on Correctional Health Care: Standards for Health Services in Prisons, 2003, P-A-06

American Correctional Association: Standards for Adult Correctional Institutions, 4th Edition, 2003. 4-4410, 4-4422, 4-442